

Station 2: Natives and Invasives

Throughout Hayes Woods, you will see native plants typical of the white pine-hardwood-hemlock forest. Partridgeberry (*Mitchella repens*) and teaberry (*Gaultheria procumbens*), striped or spotted wintergreen (*Chimaphila maculata*), and pipsissewa (*Chimaphila umbellata*) are common low-growing native plants with evergreen foliage. Other native plants along the trail include maple-leaf viburnum (*Viburnum acerifolium*), sarsaparilla (*Aralia nudicaulis*), Canada mayflower (*Maianthemum canadense*), starflower (*Trientalis borealis*), Indian cucumber (*Medeola virginiana*), and many species of ferns.

In some areas of Hayes Woods, non-native invasive plants grow alongside the native plants. Non-native invasive species outcompete native species, often displacing them, shading them, and altering soil chemistry. Japanese barberry (*Berberis thunbergii*) is a non-native shrub that has established itself in this area of Hayes Woods. Once used widely as an ornamental shrub, it is banned from sale in Massachusetts.

